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THE
UNHAPPY WIFE,
IN
A SERIES OF LETTERS.

THE
WILLIAM
T. BROWN
UNION
LONDON



**THE
UNHAPPY WIFE.**

**IN
A SERIES OF LETTERS,**

**BY A LADY.
IN TWO VOLUMES.**

VOLUME THE SECOND.

*Felices ter, et amplius,
Quos irrupta tenet copula; nec malis
Divulsus querimoniis,
Suprema citius solvet amor die.*

HOR. i. 13. 17.

L O N D O N.

Printed for F. Newbery, the corner of Ludgate Street,
St. Paul's Church yard, and J. Smith, No. 15. Paternoster-Row.

M. DCC. LXX.

UNHAPPY WIFE

SMI

A SERIES OF LETTERS

IN TWO VOLUMES

VOLUME THE SECOND





THE
UNHAPPY WIFE.

ADVERTISEMENT.

Lord GOULD, to Lady SAPPHO
VARLEY.

“ YOU have taken no no-
“ Y tice of my letters in an-
“ swer to your advertise-
“ ment near three weeks
“ ago. I request you to satisfy me,
“ in respect to the contents thereof. I
“ believe, we both have scarce a doubt
“ concerning——I will wait an op-
“ portunity to be quite convinced, and
“ satisfied.—Please to write to me by
“ the penny post; directed to me at
Vol. II. B “ my

“ my own house; or as before, if you
“ like it better; but, I had rather you
“ would do the former; however, if,
“ it be more agreeable to take your
“ own method, I submit to it; so it
“ leads to satisfy me that we are both
“ right in one conjecture:—I have
“ proceeded, as far as, in prudence I
“ dare to convince you: the rest in
“ great measure lies with you.”——

ADVER-

THE UNHAPPY WIFE.

ADVERTISEMENT.

Lord GOULD, to Lady SAPPHO.

VARLEY.

“ I F you really know not my direc-
“ tions, here ends the matter.
“ The person, for whom I mean this,
“ knows it, as well as myself; and if,
“ that object has overlooked other ad-
“ vertisements of the like kind, with
“ the present, and should not be pleas-
“ ed, to attend to this; I shall think
“ it in vain to say any thing more for
“ the future; and will drop the corres-
“ pondence through this channel. The
“ signature often requested should be
“ subscribed; or, if you can put me
“ out of doubt by any other means,
“ please to use the same.”

4 THE UNHAPPY WIFE.

ADVERTISEMENT.

Lady SAPPHO VARLEY, to Lord
GOULD.

“ I AM sure, from your behaviour
“ some weeks past, you are affront-
“ ed, and more or less imagine the
“ cause of it; no intention was on my
“ side to give offence:—but as you
“ have taken it otherwise,—I beg your
“ pardon for it.—Your last words, as
“ well as mine, were “ not to disturb
“ our friendship by mere trifles”—and
“ as you have been too much offended,
“ by a very small one, (which has been
“ done before) in a manner, shews
“ your intention, of breaking, through
“ your word, though so often renew-
“ ed;—if, that is the case—let former
“ friendship induce you, to favour me
“ with a line, or (with proper notice
“ and

“ and regard of the times) apply, where
 “ you know—hope, you’ll condescend
 “ to one of the two requests;—and in
 “ so doing, you will oblige,—who is
 “ yours.”

B3 ADVER:

ADVERTISEMENT.

Lord GOULD, to Lady SAPPHO
VARLEY.

“ I AM infinitely obliged to you, for
“ your most kind advertisement;
“ and shall be truly happy to acknow-
“ ledge myself so,—upon, a favour-
“ able opportunity, to be embraced by
“ you, as well as, by me; in order, to
“ have a private interview, only be-
“ tween ourselves; for reasons, you
“ seem not a stranger to.”

LETTER

LETTER XXXVII.

Miss MORLY, to Lady HENEAGE.

Madam,

I Have prevailed very easily on Lady Sappho to answer Lord Gould's advertisements, because some other person hath taken upon themselves to answer them; hereby a discovery might be made of the authors, which would be extremely disagreeable to all parties.

Lady Sappho sends her best respects to your Ladyship, and informs you, that she will be in town the latter end of next week, in better health than you can expect.

I must, conclude in very great haste
Your Ladyship's Most Obedient

Servant

ELIZA MORLY.

P. S. The Duke is going to take us
 an airing to his house, at a minute's
 notice, on some particular diversion—
 I have not penetration enough to know
 what;—

ADVER.

ADVERTISEMENT.

Lord GOULD, to Lady SAPPHO
VARLEY.

“ I Hope you perused the advertise-
“ ment in this paper last week;
“ least you should have overlooked it,
“ I take the liberty of inserting this;—
“ you may either answer it by sending
“ a line where you directed not long
“ since, or by saying in this paper
“ where I may hear from you.—In-
“ dulge me with an answer directly.”

B B LETTER

LETTER XXXVIII.

Lady HENAGE, to Lady SAPPHO
VARLEY.

Lady SAPPHO,

I AM surprized, that you have not received a letter from Lord Gould since you came to town;—it would be adviseable to insert an advertisement, to prevent other persons from imposing on him, by spurious pretences.

Suppose Lady Sappho you was to appoint a meeting at the play house—it certainly would be a good scheme,—and to take the upper green box* on the left hand next the slips in an unknown name,—it is extremely private; you may set all the evening without being noticed;—be at the place about

* This is now Mr. Colman's box.

five,

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five, in an undress with a hat and cloak on;—I will take you in my coach, and will go to some other part of the house, and call for you, before the play will be over.—I admire my own contrivance,—it will be very safe, and eligible;—do let Lord Gould know the place appointed this day. Adieu

my dear Sappho

MARIA HENEAGE.

Anonymous

Anonymous ADVERTISEMENT.

—“**Y**OUR cold and ungene-
“ rous behaviour, for some
“ time past, convinces me that a hap-
“ pier person has supplanted me in
“ your esteem;—you have sense enough
“ for half your sex, yet you may be
“ deceived;—in me you can never be
“ deceived; for you have tried and
“ proved my friendship for a long
“ series of years, and now I am more
“ your friend if possible than ever;
“ consider! before it is too late! or
“ mark the end!

“ N. B. I will be on Monday, Wed-
“ nesday, and Friday, at — if you
“ have the least regard for me, meet
“ me, between four and six, or depend
“ upon it I will see you at your—

ADVER-

ADVERTISEMENT.

Lord GOULD, to Lady SAPPHO
VARLEY.

“IN order to avoid mistakes from
“advertisements, either inserted by
“you, or me, I beg, you will send a
“line to the same place where you
“used to send in the summer, with the
“signature of the first and last letters
“of your christian and surname;—I
“shall ever retain the highest esteem,
“and regard for you; and hope you
“think so;—I beg to hear soon, that
“we may have a speedy interview.”

ADVER.

ADVERTISEMENT.

Lord GOULD, to Lady SAPPHO
VARLEY.

D— L—,

“SEND a line to day, I pray you,
“where you used to direct to me,
“saying, where I may see you to mor-
“row. Send soon to day.—Be at your
“window at eight o’clock to morrow
“evening—

“N. B. Whether I can speak to you
“or not, say where you will be.”

ADVER-

ADVERTISEMENT.

Lord GOULD, to Lady SAPPHO
VARLEY.

D— L—,

“ **T**O the place where you lately
“ directed to your friend, send
“ directly for a letter, which he has
“ left there for you;—The favour of
“ yours has been duly received;—It
“ is directed agreeable to the signature
“ of yours to me;—But let your di-
“ rections to me be as before.
“ Adieu.”

Anony-

Anonymous ADVERTISEMENT.

“ **A.** Z. Sent according to D—L—’s
“ appointment, and after many
“ enquiries, could not possible find out
“ the place he desired;—A. Z. would
“ be glad to be better informed, that
“ no mistake in future may happen.

Anonymous

Anonymous ADVERTISEMENT.

" If I. H. will appoint an interview,
 " in a letter directed to me, at my
 " own residence; he may depend on
 " my punctually meeting him.—If he
 " don't chuse to do that it's positively
 " doing nothing; as it is firmly re-
 " solved to pay no attention to any
 " thing that may appear out of the
 " channel I above mentioned.

Be at Covent Garden house to night
 at five o'clock, I will meet you in the
 green box next the slips on the left
 hand, the box is taken in your name.

Adieu for the present

LETTER

L E T T E R XXXIX.

Lady SAPPHO VARLEY, to Lord
GOULD.

I Have sent two letters to you, directed to one of the places, I used to send to in the summer; and have received no answer,—therefore thought it most prudent to take them up again, least they should fall into improper hands.—

Be at Covent Garden house to night at five o'clock, I will meet you in the green box next the slips on the left hand, the box is taken in your name.

Adieu for the present,

S—— V——,

* * The misfortunes that seems to threaten you makes me extremely unhappy, be circumspect, and cautious, that we may some time or other * * *

LETTER

LETTER XL.

Lord GOULD, to Lady SAPHO
VARLEY.

I Have read your kind letter, and am very much obliged to you for the affectionate part you take in my uneasiness; but let nothing give you pain; because that would enlarge my disquiet, which I bear under, and support my health and spirits to a remarkable degree,—but sometimes nature will prevail.—It is not always in my power to resist her demands, and I am forced to obey her dictates at such periods;—still I keep these affecting touches to myself, nor do I let any person know the conflicts that disturb my repose.—Heaven has been pleased to vouchsafe to grant me some strength of mind,

mind, and I look on it as my duty to have recourse to the same with praise and thanksgiving, in all difficulties and distresses.

I observe faithfully your direction, to be very circumspect, and depend upon it I will be most strictly upon my guard, to prevent any possible efforts that may even tend to a discovery of our correspondence;—therefore let the busy bodies, or impertinent wretches amuse themselves, and when they find their attempts are fruitless their curiosity will subside.

I shall agreeable to your commands, direct this to ——— and would have you continue the same direction to me *as heretofore*, until I have the happiness of seeing you, and then we may put things perhaps upon a more eligible footing than at present.—I shall
send

send regularly every day to inquire if there be any letter for me.---I hope to hear speedily from you, and shall be truly happy when the time comes to afford me the joy and satisfaction of an interview with one whom I most sincerely love and esteem.---May nothing ever happen in life to interrupt our mutual regards.---I am sure, nothing ever shall on my side, and I have the strongest faith, that you will continue the same kindness,---But such is the fluctuating state of human nature, --- that when I consider it, I find so many vicissitudes and alterations throughout life, that are almost enough to make one sad indeed.---But no more of such reflections here.

Dear Lady Sappho, altho' I so ardently wish to see you, yet I am very sensible that a fit opportunity must be waited for, and I have too great a re-
gard

gard for you to wish you not to be circumspect, and I shall likewise be so for both our sakes.--I wish to God I had known of your being at the play that night;—nothing should have prevented me from meeting you.—I know your situation well,—and am sensible that things cannot always be just as your inclination may lead you, and therefore I am the more uneasy when a good opportunity is lost;—However! let us embrace the earliest opportunity in our power, and send me a line in time.

I am your,

most faithfully and affectionately

GOULD.

Saturday.

What I mean by sending me a line in time is,—that if you put the letter in the penny post it may be done at least

least betimes in the morning; on the day before the appointed time,—because unless the letter is put into the *General Penny Post* (there is one in *Sussex Street*) there is no certainty of dispatch; for the other offices are slow in their conveyance.

LETTER

What I mean by sending me a line in time is—that if you put the letter in the penny post it may be done at least

LETTER XLI.

Lord GOULD, to Lady SAPPHO
VARLEY.

THIS day sen'night I received the favour of your letter,—which was answered immediately, and directed as you desired.—I find, it was not taken up till the night before last, being *Thursday*, so that it lay five whole days at the Coffee House;—

This intelligence I gathered this evening at the same Coffee House, where I went buttoned up in my furtout and being unknown, I inquired at the bar, if the letters sent there under such an address, had been called for, and I was informed, that a young woman had fetched away one at the time above-

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mentioned;

mentioned; indeed the other could not have been given her then, for it did not reach the Coffee House 'till this morning.—

I put it into the Penny Post last night, to acquaint you that I had received no letter from you since last *Saturday*,—and by the date of your last, I presume the same was written at least two days ere it came to the place directed to.—The letter I sent you last, I have taken up, and substituted this in lieu thereof,—which I leave in person at the Coffee House.

I suppose you have not written lately to me, as I have received no letter. It surprizes me when I read the late strange advertisements, and I dare say they have in some measure attracted your observation.

I hope

I hope you have not supposed me to be the author of either of them.—You may believe me, when I assure you, that the last advertisement inserted by me was that wherein I acknowledged the receipt of your letter, and informed you that I had left one for you at the same place where you directed to your friend.

It has been very unlucky that you should not have been able as yet to embrace such an opportunity as we should like in order to see each other—I have been restless beyond description at hearing the man say, as often as inquiry was made, “No letter yet Sir,” and this has been said so repeatedly that I was half inclined to *be* angry with him;—But poor fellow he cannot help it. I believe him faithful.

A nightingale otherwise a most lovely gold finch accompanied by two others of the same feather—I dreamt yesterday morning, would fly into a garden, where it is *ever* SPRING, or at least, it is so denominated,—and that I should hear of it, but be unhappy enough to be out of the way at that time, nevertheless it would reach my ears, yet, upon hearing it, as the dream goes I should not make any particular inquiries concerning one, more than the other, of this fine nest, for fear, it should be thought, that I set an extraordinary estimation and regard upon one, more than the rest—and thereby become remarkable for my very partial attachment to the favourite of these birds;—that it would be right, according to this dream, that I should not make, upon the occasion, any singular inquiries,

inquiries, but be satisfied that there had been those birds, and among them the one, which I had else where so often seen, admired, esteemed, and I was going to say loved.

Methought that in this dream, my heart felt uncommon impulses at the prudential necessity I should be under not to ask the names of the birds—but as the dream goes, he assured, that my favourite was among them.—I must recollect one circumstance, which is, that I am uncertain whether the birds flew into the garden, or were brought thither in a cage ;—agreeable to the intelligence my dream gave me, they were to be seen (tho' not by me) unhappily in a cage, and that, that cage would turn round in the said garden, and carry off, I was going to say, my precious one, and the others.

I beg you will give me a solution of this dream, whether it has been verified or no: what I mean is, if you have skill enough in the solution of dreams to tell me whether the dear bird herein meant was among the number that came into the garden yesterday.

For my own part, I am so stupid as to be unable to tell the meaning of this remarkable dream, and want your help to unriddle it, which I shall be glad you will do, and let me hear from you immediately.

Well! of all the people in the world that resemble each other, I saw a person some days ago in the park that resembled you so much as to raise my curiosity to follow her a long time,—but she dropped her chin so low into her neck, and having on a bonnet that covered
half

half her face, hindered me from really knowing whether my imagination was right or wrong,—as I was cautious besides of searching with too inquisitive an eye,—lest such behaviour might be noticed and thought rude.

It is unlucky that you have not had an opportunity yet of letting me see you; I call it unlucky, but should I receive any rebukes from you when we meet, by what appellation shall I call such a circumstance then.—If you mean to censure me, Oh! never see me—But let me be forgot, and all be buried deep in oblivion. Perhaps I may not be long in this land: if I leave it, 'twill be with a heavy heart;—but if things oblige me to do so, I know not how I shall well avoid my destiny.

If I go, I fear, it will be for many years, not unlikely for ever, for I think what with one thing, or another, I

shall live but a short time under the weight of so much disquietude, yet if it be in my power to bear up under it, I will exert myself and endeavour to overcome all difficulties.

I am not resolved yet to leave the Kingdom;—neither will I, if it can be avoided in any tolerable manner.—But at present I have not those satisfactory prospects, and domestic tranquility to render the present scene agreeable,—and under these considerations I should go with somewhat less regret, than otherwise;—but there is a person whom, it would grieve me to think to lose sight of,—much less to leave the land where she inhabits.—I will mention no name after what I have said towards the end of the last page of this letter.

I hope, I have not tired your patience; if that be the case, for the future

ture I will be brief, upon your orders so to do. Write soon, and embrace an occasion to let me see you. Adieu.— But stay a moment. Remember to tell me in your next, whether I was right in my dream concerning the bird meant in the course of my narration in this letter—and let me know something of your sentiments concerning that passage—of this letter.

Adieu, Dear Lady S—

from your faithful and affectionate

G—

LETTER. XLII.

Lady SAPPHO VARLEY, to Lord
GOULD.

I Should have wrote to you sooner, but was at a loss how to convey a letter to you, because my friend was in the country; and I by no means would trust my woman with so important a secret.—I assure you it was not forgetfulness, for you are nearer to me than you imagine.

As to your dream, I am not mistress of the art of divination, therefore can give you but little satisfaction on that head;—however I will endeavour to interpret it.

The

The favourite bird is a gold-finch, and the king bestowed a famous collar on its father for piping so well. This young gold-finch will come again into the gardens, accompanied by another bird, whose plume is tinged with green,—they will be brought in a cage into the gardens ;—on the doors being opened they will fly into a china closet and do a great deal of mischief if you don't take care: it may be dangerous to clip their wings.

It would give me great pleasure to see you,—every thing happens so disagreeable, that I almost despair of bringing it about, there are so many obstacles in the way.—What do you mean by telling me “*if I should rebuke you*” are you conscious that you deserve it?—No Sir, whenever I meet you, censure shall be laid aside.—If you intend to leave
the

the kingdom, why would you wish to see me? and consequently make me miserable.

You are a stranger to the favourable sentiments I have lately conceived of you;—there is something tells me that we shall yet be happy;—those strange advertisements make me very uneasy:—Perhaps they may be inserted by — or some of his emissaries to endeavour at a discovery.—For God's sake be cautious, and give me your opinion, if you think there is a probability of any discovery.

Adieu, write directly,

S—— V——

LETTER

LETTER. XLIII.

Lord GOULD, to Lady SAPPHO
VARLEY.

Dear Lady SAPPHO, *Thursday Even.*

I Sent to day, according to daily custom, to inquire for a letter, and had the happiness, and satisfaction to have one brought me from you. I was uneasy at your silence, which had lasted a fortnight, and was thinking what could occasion your not writing me a line, if it had been only to say, you had received my letters, *and that you were well.*

Upon reading yours, I was sensible the omission did not arise from forgetfulness;—but you must be very sensible,
that

that an agitated mind is not easy till the cause of it's anxiety is removed.—Your letters always gives me inexpressible pleasure, you cannot wonder at my uneasiness for your long silence.

I approve of your disguising your hand-writing, so that, your nearest friend cannot detect it;—and no person can get a sight of your letters to me, if your friend acts with the circumspection equal to that observed by you and me. No body knows your address to me, but ourselves, and I am sure, none know mine to you, but yourself, your friend, and myself.

It is not in the nature of things for the most inquisitive person, to find out our correspondence,—so that I would have you lay aside all unnecessary conjectures you may have given way to,
relative

relative to any one knowing our correspondence.

As to any person guessing such a thing, how can that be?—I can't conceive it by any means whatever:—Even for argument sake, let us suppose, that there may be such people in the world, who may fancy that I have the greatest attachment to you,—and that I have the honour of enjoying your esteem,—admit even this, and the idea of a correspondence would not enter into their insignificant, prying brains;—and however strong the late ad—— may seem to be, in regard to our connexion,—yet I cannot suppose, how any person can possibly mean them for us.

Dear Lady S——, let no fears disturb you.—Pardon me, if I mention one thing to you;—what I mean is this, be very sure of the person you
make

make your *confident*.—Don't take amiss this hint, it is certainly a right one, though the person confided in appears unexceptionable.

It is impossible to be too much upon your guard, for most discoveries have been brought about by *confidants*. Those who have such as they can place an intire confidence in, are safe and happy ; I believe your friend deserving your trust ; therefore nothing I have said can be properly applied to her.

This is my real opinion. Consider the multitude of people in this town,—and judge how probable it is for others (besides ourselves) to have *a like* connexion, and correspondence.—We are apt oftentimes in life, to imagine many things that are both said, and done, to be pointed at ourselves, when perhaps
the

the authors, never thought of us, at the time we suppose ourselves the subject of their assertions, or deeds.—I hope, you did not imagine, that I could suppose, you would intrust such a sort of person, as your letter speaks of, with a knowledge of our correspondence!—No; such a thought could never enter into my mind.—I am better acquainted with the world, than to trust the dregs of human kind,—having from experience been convinced, that this class of people have not in general either gratitude, generosity, or fidelity,—consequently they are unfit to be made use of in a case wherein truth and secrecy are absolutely requisite.—

You perceive that I did not think nor wish you to employ such reptiles—it was the farthest from my thoughts of any thing in the world.

I judged

I judged that the correspondence was carried on through the channel of your friend, the same I presume, that I saw in ——— last summer.—I believe her to be very good natured and friendly;—indeed the part she takes in our affair, proves this.—*If you think fit,* pray give my compliment of thanks to her.

You are pleased to tell me in answer to my question, that you do not understand the art of divination,—therefore cannot render me a solution of my dream;—give me leave to remark to you, that if you have not the art of divination, I am sure of this, that you have another art of a very bewitching kind;—which I have felt, and ever shall feel the *soft force* of. I am inexpressibly happy in this susceptibility of your influence over me.

Oh!

Oh! Lady S——, it gives me pleasure to find you have been so near me; so far my dream is interpreted by you.— I wish, I had happened to have been in the way then,—but I was in the Green Park, taking a solitary walk,—which I generally do every day about one o'clock.

You say, “my favourite bird will come again to the garden accompanied by another bird whose plume is tinged with green; that they will be brought in a cage, out of which, they will fly, upon the door being opened, into the china closet, and do a great deal of mischief, if I don’t take care;” you tell me besides it *will* be dangerous to endeavour to *clip* their wings. In answer to which, I must observe to you that you don’t tell me the day and time, when this lovely creature will take wing;—

wing ;—for I should sadly support it to hear, that it had perched in my absence when a little air and exercise only called me into the neighbouring environs,—it would be a pity indeed, that this should happen.—You say, “it will do mischief, if I do not take care;” But pray why so? I have heard of a monkey bursting into a china closet, and over-setting the tea cups and saucers, demolishing all the gew-gaws, gimcracks, &c.

But I never heard of a sweet lovely bird doing this;—No! 'tis not in its nature, unless it should happen to be frightened at a certain *dickey* bird which is as dear to me, as I am to myself, and I would not let him loose after any other bird in the world, but this precious favourite of mine upon any account. I hope she will not be frightened at him
and

and so fly away. You tell me, "it may be dangerous to endeavour to clip the favourite's wings;" *that I would not do*, but I will tell you, what I would do, were it in my power;" *I would fasten the sweet creature to me by such a tie, that she should never go from me, 'till death separated us.*

Oh! Dear L—S—, the subject of the latter part of your letter in answer to a certain paragraph in mine affects me indeed very much.—You ask me why I would endeavour to make you miserable by wishing to see you, if I really intend to leave the kingdom?—*I love you too well*, I am sure, to let any thing in my power make you uneasy ;—and you may rest assured, that I should be very unhappy, if you felt the least disquietude.—I give you my tenderest assurance, and solemn promise, that I
will

will not take such a step without your knowledge,—and what is more, without your consent.—Write to me the first opportunity, I beg.

From your affectionate
and faithful

G—

ADVERTISEMENT.

Lord GOULD, to Lady SAPPHO
VARLEY.

D— L—,

PLEASE to take up the letter left
for you yesterday afternoon.—Have
you received that of last *Thursdays*?

Anony-

Anonymous ADVERTISEMENT.

THE person who H. M. was so obliging as to write to the 11th instant, waited at the place appointed on *Friday*, till past three o'clock, and is extremely sorry he had not the pleasure to see him; begs H. M. to favour him with a line directed as before, to let him know when and where he may be waited on.

Anony-

Anonymous ADVERTISEMENT.

THE advertisements of a certain letter being received, did not escape observation. The advertiser may rest assured that no impropriety can arise from writing an answer in the manner desired, as the motive will not be known to any person living, but the party who it is sent to : nevertheless, if any plan can be adapted more to the advertiser's satisfaction, it will be immediately embraced by the writer of the said letter upon a further communication through the channel of this paper, on the part of the advertiser, whose good confidence, in whatever manner manifested, will be always had in grateful remembrance.

LETTER

LETTER XLIV.

Lady SAPPHO VARLEY, to Lady
HENEAGE.

Dear Lady HENEAGE,

MISS Morly's stay in the country greatly distresses me, as I can receive no letter from Lord Gould, 'till her return. Pray is there any hopes of that within two or three days?

Lord Gould informs me, that a separation is on foot betwixt him and his Lady, and he has some thoughts of quitting the kingdom.—On my appearing uneasy he has promised on his honour, that I shall be the mistress of his fate, and that he will not go without my consent.—I wish I could accompany

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him

him to the Alps, and there to take up our abode in one of the pleasant valleys, change our names, and live unknown.

Then I should never see my Dear Lady Heneage. No more hear the soft soothing voice of her friendship!—I know not how to leave the kingdom while you continue in it;—but I must fix on some plan that will enable Lord Gould and myself to pass the remainder of our days in peace.—I have long trifled with him,—and have not even resolution enough to encourage, or dismiss him,—however I am sure that if I live much longer in this unhappy state of suspense, I shall fall a sacrifice to my own feelings.

Sir John treats me in the most rude and indelicate manner;—I will not pain you with the disagreeable recital, he is
a wretch

a wretch beneath our notice, and I am determined to leave him in a very short time.—Do not endeavour to persuade me to the contrary. Will you forgive and look upon your abject friend.—Yes! I know you will not forsake me, in the day of trouble. Farewell my much beloved friend.

SAPPHO VARLEY.

* * Depend on it I will take no step without acquainting you. Adieu.

D 2 LETTER

LETTER XLV.

Lady HENEAGE, to Lady SAPPHO
VARLEY.

Dear Lady SAPPHO,

I Expect Miss Morly in town to morrow; immediately on her arrival I will send her to you.—I will not chide you Lady Sappho; nor endeavour to dissuade you from your intended purpose,—for I plainly see you can never be happy till you are parted from Sir John. He deserves his fate.—I beg you will not be too precipitate in your resolves, but stay at least till Lord Gould has settled the affair with his Lady, then you will both have my consent to pursue that plan which shall appear most eligible.—I never shall Lady Sappho
love

love you less for being unfortunate; you will have a greater plea to engage my best love and esteem;—I assure you, if it is in the power of friendship to alleviate your suffering, and to pour the balm of peace into your distressed bosom, that shall be my care; and believe me to be what I truly am,

your most sincere

MARIA HENEAGE.

D. 3. LETTER

LETTER XLVI.

Lord GOULD, to Lady SAPPHO
VARLEY.

Dear Lady S——, *Wednes. afternoon.*

I Sent a letter for you last *Friday*, in answer to the favour of yours received the day before,—and took an opportunity to call on *Saturday* night to be informed if it had been taken away, or not:—I was told, it still lay there — whether you have sent for it, I know not.—I caused inquiry to be made to day, if there was any letter for me, and was answered in the negative.—Perhaps you have not had mine even yet;—however, you see that I do not stand upon so much ceremony
as

as to wait an answer to a former letter ere I write you a second.

In time I shall perhaps see you, but when that hour will arrive, God alone knows.—I will be frank enough to tell you, that as my endeavours to see you have been hitherto fruitless, I must wait your will and command, 'till it pleases you to grant me that honour,—and try to become as calm *as I* can be in the interval, without repeating those importunities, which might perplex and offend you.

Give me leave to observe to you a particular ad—— that has been in the papers within a week,—which probably you have noticed as well as myself,—as it has been repeatedly inserted, and I think, in *all* the daily papers.—In the G——r I am sure it was.

D 4

This

This ad——t speaks of initials of a name of one, or more persons of the same family, as I take it, who live very near you,—and if you have not hitherto guessed whom I mean,—I believe you can't fail to do so upon a little reflection.

I cannot conceive what it aims at:—It is possible, it does not come from the house I mean, but I must say, the appearance of the thing makes me suspect one or the other of that family, whom I despise most heartily.—I see none of them, neither here, or at their own house, and I am determined to continue upon the same distant footing with them.

It is now some months since I spoke to either of them.—I don't say all this upon the conjecture above-mentioned, but for other reasons, which justify my aversion.

aversion to them.—You might have possibly thought that this ad—— was inserted by the person whose initials are mentioned therein, and that it alluded to me;—if you thought so, you are convinced by this that I know nothing of it,—for I have no connexion with either of them,—and wish, I never had *any* with the family;—But it is likely to drop for-ever;—and if a certain affair takes place, which *a friend of a part* of the family has proposed,—by which, I am, in one respect somewhat chagreened,—there will be a dis-junction from the whole.

I have hitherto opposed the proposition from resentment only, not thinking myself well treated in the matter,—but I shall shortly assent to it, and then, there will be a dis-union.—Can you guess who this *friend of a part* of the

D 5

family

family is?—When I tell you, “he is a man *in Power*, perhaps you may guess the person.”—He is no friend of mine,—although I never gave him cause to be my adversary;—however, I hold his endeavours in contempt in regard to any hurt he can do me,—but would rather have had his friendship, as he is a —— man I was well inclined to esteem.

Don’t mistake the person I mean:—I do not know that you are acquainted with him;—you may for aught I am sensible of to the contrary.—He is not your neighbour,—but resides in the *very near neighbourhood* of the place, where, I used to meet with your friend in the summer.

I have often thought of your breaking off the correspondence.—— Let
me

me hear from you by *Saturday*.—I will leave a letter for you by twelve o'clock on *Sunday* next.

Adieu

From your most affectionate

G—

LETTER XLVII.

Lady SAPPHO VARLEY, to Lord
GOULD.

MY friend is arrived in town, and called for your letter last night,—it was with the greatest difficulty she received it,—after she had given in the two letters, they would not deliver the letter, except, she would leave her address; therefore, was obliged to leave a fictitious one, viz. ——— (her own would have been quite improper,) and told them she lived in *Fleet-Street*.

Your circumspection gives me great pleasure, and I beg you will still pursue it.

I am

I am of your opinion that it is my very near neighbour that has inserted those impertinent advertisements ; — though for what purpose I cannot divine, — your treatment from all that family has always been base and ungenerous, — yet if you could make this *great man in office* (that is a friend to part of the family) — your friend, I think it would be adviseable ; — he might, rightly managed, be of very great service to you, — I sympathize with you in all your difficulties, and disappointments, — and sincerely desire and hope for an interview ; — then I will account to you for all my former conduct, — be well assured, I never can nor will place an improper confidence in any person under the sun.

Your letters are sacred, and never was, nor ever shall be exposed.

The

The great anxiety you are in makes me unhappy, and indeed, I have no occasion for any addition to mine, for I have long been miserable, though I still live in hopes that our sufferings will speedily have an end.

I cannot receive your letters but when Miss —— is in town,—business of importance will call her into the country again in a short time.—She is really now come to town on purpose to oblige me.—She is almost pierced to death by the cold weather.

Adieu your affectionate

S—— V——.

P. S. You desire to know the reason of my breaking off the correspondence.—I will tell you in a few words.—I was in hopes that time and absence, would make

make us forget each other,—and conquer a passion that might prove fatal to us both.—My best wishes attend you.

LETTER

L E T T E R XLVIII.

Lord GOULD, to Lady SAPPHO
VARLEY.

Dear Lady S— -, *Monday night.*

I Have received this day the happiness of a letter from you: wherein you account for the cause of your silence by your friend's journey,—and consequently absence from transaction of the matter which she is kind enough to undertake for you.—If the cold pinched her a good deal, it was some judgment, and punishment upon her for the uneasiness I have felt at her unseasonable excursion at this hoary time of the year, whereby I was deprived of *my only pleasure*,—I mean that of hearing from you, since I cannot see you.

You

You put no date to your letter, so that I am left to guess it.—I presume, by what you inform me, that my letter dated last *Saturday* night, which I left, in person, at the Coffee House about twelve o'clock, the next day, *Sunday*, is still there.

I observe diligently your circumspection relative to certain inquiries of the Coffee House people of your messenger, and the consequences, that might ensue agreeable to that account, from the repetition of the same messenger to the same house.—If she had said ——— instead of *Fleet-Street*, the answer might have appeared better; — however, it is not material whether their coffee grounds settle well, or ill, and it is this, that gives offence, for if I had drank often of it, they would have been satisfied: this, I apprehend,
to,

to be their meaning by the word, "customer."

Indeed it has always been out of my way to frequent that place, and I never heard of it 'till I had the happiness of your correspondence, which has carried me there sometimes, and I am sure, they have never had cause at either time to be displeased at my behaviour,—so that *in a degree* they might have done me the honour of denominating me a *customer*, and acted accordingly.

I should have had no objection for my name to be used upon this occasion, — and my residence likewise, — if no other circumstance whatever regarding our correspondence could have possibly come to light from it, — for my name being common *and myself unknown there*, they would have been

no wives ; what would that have signified, if they were ignorant of the person with whom I had the honour and felicity of a correspondence ?—So that the only inconvenience that could be apprehended in the matter, might be from the simplicity of the maid, who might innocently discover sooner, or later the names of both parties,—or if she is ignorant of your's, that of your friend might be brought upon the carpet.

All this is mentioned as what might *possibly, though unlikely*, have happened from the use of my name;—that of J——s would have passed well enough.

If your friend has not taken away the letter left there on *Sunday*,—I wish she would without delay;—otherwise I must go there and fetch it away, and
give

give them a reprimand at the same time, for they have no right to ask a single question of your friend's servant,—provided that servant makes proper inquiry for the letter agreeable to the direction.

It would be strange indeed if every impertinent question was to be resolved that a saucy waiter, or bar-woman at a coffee house should be pert enough to ask;—however I will send no more letters to that place, and as soon as I have the satisfaction to hear from you, that you have received this, as well as that of last *Sunday*, I will immediately acquaint you where my future letters will be left for you.

I thought you could not be at a loss to guess the persons I meant in your neighbourhood. God knows whether they are the author's of that, or any other

other ad—— which we have noticed;— but they are impertinent, suspicious, and inquisitive enough to do that, or any thing else, little and dirty, that they can without being detected.—I believe, they would not choose to have me find them at any of their officious, and meddling researches, wherein I was concerned,— because they know that I never would permit either of them (including the late *old gripe*) to interfere in word or deed with any thing I did, or intended to do—they would, if I had let them,— but I soon prevented it, in the old woman's time, and they found it the best way to be quiet, and not meddle with a sharp-edged instrument that was likely to give them an unpleasant return.—

Different people, my Dear Lady S—, are to be dealt with differently.—There are some in the world whom one naturally regards from the amiable qualities they

they have, and wish to be in their company and conversation as often as can be;—and there are others, on the other hand, who being void of almost every valuable recommendation in life, we as naturally wish to avoid:—where hypocrisy, avarice, selfishness, and low-cunning make up the character of man or woman, they become despicable in the world's opinion, and are deservedly shun'd by all.

The parties I have been speaking of merit this sketch of a character, and a greater likeness I could draw of them with strict justice, were it not beneath me to dwell any longer on such an odious subject, at a time I enjoy the satisfaction and pleasure of thinking, and writing to you, but lest you should imagine that what I have set forth, arises from any disappointment from that quarter, in consequence of application from me to them

them, I must, in justice to myself, beg leave to aver, that I never asked the least sort of favour of either of them,—neither am I in any shape whatsoever under the slightest colour of obligation to the one or the other, nor ever will be.

You ask, “would it not be advisable to make that great man your friend?”—I answer in the affirmative, by all means, it will not admit of a doubt;—but according to the intelligence, I have communicated to me on this head, I have no reason to think, that were I to apply to him, that the result of an application would be attended with success:—what may hereafter done by him, is another thing?—Still I cannot flatter myself with a distant, agreeable prospect from that point, lest I should be disappointed.

There

There is no doubt, but it is in his power to make matters tolerably agreeable, and I cannot but say that I had two or three months ago some hopes of that person becoming a friend,—but something has been proposed by him since this flattering hope, and conveyed to me through different channels,—that is to say,—the *Lady* of this great man, and * * * * * were in company together, *designedly*, at the house of his neices, and then, and there, her L——informed * * * * * of her h—d's inclination to *do so and so*, on * * * * *, *own account*, and *solely for* * * * * * *herself*, but that *I was not to expect his aid*.—This matter, * * * * * not choosing to impart to me herself, spoke to a gentleman known both to me, and herself, to acquaint me with this affair, and he accordingly came to
me

me immediately, and found me at dinner,—as I knew him, I admitted him, and after dinner he unfolded his budget.—I heard him without interruption finish his business, and all he had to say upon it;—I then informed him with great calmness and composure, that “I
 “ would *give him* (the gentleman messenger) *no answer*, that since I was
 “ not to expect friendship from the
 “ c—— his lordship should receive no
 “ compliment from me;—that his
 “ lordship had no right to exact; —
 “ that I would take my own time to
 “ give an answer, and that I would
 “ give it to none, but *****
 “ herself.”—Altho’ I could have answered this business immediately, yet I did not choose to do so, for I thought myself very ill used.—I had determined that his lordship’s proposal should take

place, but would not then, nor have I even as yet satisfied him, or * * * *
* * * * * whether I will consent or not to the proposals.——I shall speedily however consent to it.——It will give me little uneasiness; for the readiness with which —— came into the proposal is rather a foundation for resentment, than a cause of concern; —— besides, where there is no love it is better so, than otherwise; ——if I was to expatiate upon this subject as much as I feel myself inclined to do, I should tire you with so extraordinary long an epistle, ——but I leave you to judge *whether I can attempt* after all this, to make that man my friend? write to me without constraint, and use all the freedom that your good-will for me shall dictate.——Chide me where I am wrong, and tell me where I am right.——I had rather have

have your approbation, than that of all the rest of the world.

You tell me, “you broke off the correspondence in hopes that time might make us forget each other, and that you know I was unhappy.”

Whatever effect time may produce in the minds of others,—I promise you that it will never in the least deface that strongest of affections and esteem I bear you: no, it is too deeply implanted to be rooted out by time alone.

Make no more such experiments, if you regard me. — I have given over thoughts of leaving the kingdom.—I will not upon any account leave the land, where you are;—be assured of this. I know * * * * *, and

some others with it,—but they will be excessively disappointed if they continue to hope it.

Let me hear from you as soon as you possibly can. — Remember! that you are in arrears, a *whole fortnight* without hearing more than once from you. — Do you consider what a length of time that is to one in my situation? But I depend upon your goodwill to let slip no opportunity of letting me know you are well. — If I don't hear from you, — I then fear indisposition or some other vexatious thing prevents you. — I depend likewise that you will inform me when you have an opportunity of seeing me. If you can manage to go to the play (in cog) as you did some time ago, I will meet you there. — Whose name must the places be kept in? —

There

There is one thing I must take notice of to you, which is this, that you let me know which side of the house it will be, *whether on the right or left from the stage or gallery*, because people reckon differently, some from the former, others from the latter—I began this last night, but had not time sufficient to finish it, (Because * * * * *, and a relation of mine returned from the play, and I left off writing then) 'till to-day when I conclude with the tenderest assurances of being your most faithful and affectionate, and at the same time most grateful and obliged;

G—

Tuesday,

P. S. As the Evening is wet, and I have a troublesome cold, which will probably be encreased by going out to

E 3

leave

leave an Advertisement for to-morrow, —I beg you will pardon the Advertisement not appearing so soon by a day, as otherwise it would certainly have done.

I could send it to be sure, but I think, it is better let alone; for I trust to others in this matter as little as possible.—The person I send to J—’s always carries a scrip of paper folded up containing these words only, “give the bearer any letter you have for the author of the late, &c.”

Now you must know that the fellow is docile, and does very well,—*but he cannot read*, so that he cannot say anything about the direction of the letter—I never send him from home but from a neighbouring Coffee House to me, which you
know

know is just by J—'s, and there he brings me the return whenever there is that happy conveyance for me.

He is never absent above ten or fifteen minutes,—and is never sent but when I am at the Coffee House to send him,—and there I wait 'till he comes back.—It is a Coffee House that has a passage into S—— G——s. The front of it is facing the Mew's-Gate. —It is as present convenient, as I don't meet with any acquaintances there;—there are others I like better, such as St. *James's*, &c. which I might go to, but I should at them be known.

I shall be under the necessity of making use of the same address to the advertisement—which I did before;—because it is quite uncertain whether my letter

left on *Sunday* is yet taken up, from what you have told me; otherwise I should have addressed you in the G—r under different letters for reasons I have given you in the aforesaid letter.—God bless you.—Write to me as soon as you can.

G—

ADVERTISEMENT.

Lord GOULD, to Lady SAPPHO
VARLEY.

D—L—,

PLEASE to send for the letter
left at the same place where I
originally directed, under the first
and last letters of your christian name,
—The present letter is there under
the same address.

E 5

LET-

LETTER XLIX.

Lady SAPPHO VARLEY, to Lord
GOULD.

D—— L——

THE very first opportunity I have
I will send for your letters——in
the mean time if you could acquire
a little more patience, for it is a
virtue you greatly want.——Your long
letter of fourteen pages is received.
——Good-night.

S—— V——

P. S. Direct your next letter to
Miss to be left at———

ADVER-

ADVERTISEMENT.

Lord GOULD, to Lady SAPPHO
VARLEY.

D—— L——
PRAY send and take up the three
letters which have lain some time
at J——'s, under the address of your
first and last letters of your christian
name.—Yours is this moment received
—its too late at present to say more,—I
shall observe your directions in regard
to future address.

ADVERTISEMENT.

Lord GOULD, to Lady SAPPHO
VARLEY.

D——L——

I Have left a letter for you under the
same address as my last to you, and
at the same place.——

LETTER

LETTER L.

Lord GOULD, to Lady SAPPHO
VARLEY.

Dear Lady S——

THERE was an advertisement in *Friday's* paper, to signify, that a letter had been left at J——s's.—It is hoped it has safely reached you.—That *which had lain since last Sunday* was a week at the——, I took it up, in person, the day before yesterday, and have committed it to the flames.

I presume, your friend did not inquire after it, since the time you gave me the dissatisfactory account of
your

your messenger not receiving it, upon her inquiry *for* it, *and* of what passed upon that head at the——.

I don't think myself obliged to her for giving the matter up so upright;—if I am wrong, I ask her pardon;—but really I cannot help thinking that another message should have been sent, for upon my inquiry at the house whether the above-mentioned was taken away, the waiter immediately look'd into a drawer, and there saw it: upon which I demanded it, and he delivered it me.—and I disposed of it as I have told you—because you had received another from me since that, and you might think it too stale for perusal; however, there was something in it, which I will not again insert, that I never hinted, to the best of my recollection, at, in
any

any former letter whatever,—and will postpone to repeat it, 'till I have the pleasure of seeing you.

I do not suppose you can guess my meaning, and you will therefore rather wonder what it is I allude to:—If you look in the glass, you must certainly see it, tho' it is possible even then that the hint may not be understood, but there is certainly a probability of your guessing without hesitation;—especially if you cast a thought back to a circumstance that happened, (I dare say, to your surprize) near a year ago,—now I think you cannot mistake me, having explained myself as much as can be, without expressing myself in the fullest manner,—and this I protested against in the beginning of this long paragraph;—if you need further explanation you must tell

tell me;—but I know what I shall think, if you do, “that you have no mind to “understand me,—and in that opinion, “I may imagine, that it will be look’d “on as impertinent in me to repeat it.”

It is rather remarkable, that my last letter should be condemned to return back to my own hands by some unlucky accident, and not one of the former meet with such a fate; except those in the summer which were intentionally driven back, for the reason you assigned me in your last.

I hope nothing of this kind will ever happen again; and yet methinks there is something, I know not what, that strangely disquiets my thoughts, lest you should repeat the same expedient again to make us forget each other, another
circum-

circumstance may happen on your part to dissolve it forever.

These matters are ever fluctuating in my mind, and furnish me with many uneasy moments, altho' I wish at the same time to discourage every disagreeable reflection, which I will henceforth endeavour to banish.

Do not take amiss any thing I say, I pray you not to be offended, it does not arise from an insensibility of the honour and kindneses which you have conferr'd on me by your letters ;—but on the contrary, from the tenderest feelings of affection and esteem that a heart is capable of entertaining, — supported by gratitude and fidelity towards her, for whom, were it in my power and choice, I would relinquish a crown, with the utmost

most grandeur and wealth attendant upon it, together with the rest of her sex.

Imagine not, that this is a compliment : no, It is the genuine sentiment of my soul, untainted with the least flattery, which is a crime foreign from my nature.

You have not resolved the question I asked you, “ whether your friend peruses either mine or your letters,”—perhaps both :—I shall be sorry, if I really knew, that a third person read either of them.—for I should necessarily have been less open in the disclosure of my thoughts during our correspondence.

Let the case be as may, still it is my earnest request you tell me, in a serious manner

manner, as I depend upon your honour and veracity for an answer.

Upon reflection I am strongly inclined to think she has formerly, if not lately, seen my letters. — How came they in her hands when dispatched from *Oxford*?—Did you give them to her before she set out for that place?—If you did, what occasion was there for her taking them with her into the country, since she might have sent them by the penny-post to me, before her departure from town.

I recollect, the last time of seeing that lady, your friend, in the garden, —she informed me that my letters should be returned to me either by the penny-post, or be delivered into my own hand,—I answered her, by saying,
they

they might be returned me by the penny post.

For as they were to be given back, it was quite immaterial to me, how it was done, so they did not fall in wrong hands,—and as the correspondence was dropp'd, I would not give her the trouble of coming again to the garden, therefore she might send them to me.

By this recollection of past circumstances I have a shrew'd guess that your friend knew the contents of my letters as well as yourself.—I believe, you were not at *Oxford* last summer:—what did you send my letters to her when she was there, in order for her to transmit them thence to me in town?—I must infer from this transaction that she either kept my letters after your reading them,—
(at

(at your desire) or that you gave them to her to take down into the country in order that she might send them from thence with a design to deceive me, and make me think, that I was mistaken in the object, who was not the same person I flattered myself to have the pleasure of corresponding with.

I must say, she acted her part in the farce very well, when she would fain have persuaded me that it was a person going to *France*, with another tale of her own creation that the mistake arose from a supposition that the original ad—in the summer was inserted from an old lover named * * * * whom a correspondence had been carried on with about two years ago,—but that the courtship was dissolved on account of the family of the lady disliking the match,

match, and that this * * * * had been abroad, and now returned, so that it was really thought he had been the man who inserted the ad—— I have alluded to,

I told her, she would find it very difficult to make me give faith to such a flimsy veil, as she put on; — for I could easily see through it,—and was not to be blinded by such empty efforts! in short, these accounts could not deceive an idiot.

It is plain what effect they have had upon me.—Do you still give a sanction to such an attempt to delude me!—— Tell me.—I wish, I was this moment near you to have the answer from your own lips,—but if that was the case, it could not be a delusion.—However,
you'll

you'll be kind enough to recollect in your next, the beginning of the paragraph that leads to this subject, and answer me accordingly.

I heard yesterday you were out of town, whether so, or not, I cannot say. —I must hope otherwise, because I should hear seldomer from you, than now ; — but you cannot be gone to stay at this time of the year, if at present out of town.

I have just sent to inquire for a letter, but find there is none, so I will proceed to finish this — that you may receive it before we meet, — for I hope you will be able so to manage, as I proposed in my last, — that we may speedily have the satisfaction of seeing each other.

I was

I was your way on *Sunday* about three o'clock,—but saw no one.—I don't recollect observing that the house was shut up, so that I am apt to think my accidental intelligence of your being out of town is not true.

I hope you enjoy perfect health, and that you may ever continue to do so, and enjoy every real felicity that your heart can wish for.

I wish to tender you that which is not at present in my power to offer you, would it was!—and worthy your acceptance I should then be the happiest man breathing;—but while life remains, so long will my affection continue for you, and reign absolute mistress of my heart.

I be-

I believe it is not given us in this world to be perfectly happy,——I have often heard so,——but now I really think more seriously of it than ever; God knows, whether I shall have more or less reason, to increase, or lessen my opinion on that head.

I mentioned lately to you a certain matter being on foot, which I had long deferr'd an answer to,——because I thought myself not properly treated in it.

I now tell you that I have given my answer, which I believe has reached that Great Man whom I alluded to in my late letters concerning Lady —— I gave the answer to herself, since my last to you.——She saw this day Lady —— the consort of this person, and

told her ladyship what I had said,—— which was “*that I should not hinder the execution of the proposition made to me, since the same was agreeable to her, and so readily accepted by her,*”—— thus much and no more did I say.—— When the matter will be put in execution I cannot exactly mention,——but believe it will be soon.

I am resolved to give no advice relative to her residence or future events, in consequence of this step.—— I determined what to do upon first hearing of it.——My consent was asked, and it is given in the words just mentioned.

I find it is now late, and unless I dispatch those lines in a quarter of an hour—I must postpone the same ’till the morning, and that will not do so well
because

because I have sent an ad—— to let you know this waits your orders,——and if you should happen to send for it to-morrow before it is at—— I should justly merit your censure; wherefore I conclude that it may go before the library is shut up for the night.

Adieu, from

Your faithful, &c. &c.

G——

Tuesday night eight o'clock.

L E T T E R. LI.

Lord GOULD, to Lady SAPPHO
VARLEY.

Thursday-Night.

WHAT can be the meaning of your coolness.----I am not conscious of any act to deserve it.---Two letters have lain at J.-----s's some time; the former since last *Thursday*, the latter two days ago;----and notwithstanding, there have been two advertisements in the paper, the one last *Friday*, and the other this day, yet no person has called there to inquire for the letters.

I leave this at the same place, in hopes, that it will be fetched away with the rest, to morrow.

If

If they are not taken away then by three o'clock in the afternoon, I will insert an advertisement in *Saturday's* paper, to signify the same as the late advertisements have done, and if you treat that with the like indifference, I will take all the letters away next *Tuesday*, from a belief that you reject them,--- and wish to receive no more from me. What else can I think in this case?

You will naturally judge what pain and vexation I feel during such reflections; and would give the world, had I it to part with, to avoid such a disagreeable thought, yet if it be my destiny to meet with this heavy stroke, condescend to give me notice of it, and I will not trouble you with my rude petitions for pardon, lest you should be

still more displeased at the repetition of letters to you, but resign myself to that lot, which has been shocking to me hitherto to entertain thoughts of, because I could not quit the land, that contains you, and the air, which you breathe; neither will I ever leave it, while I enjoy your regard; but without it, I could not stay longer in the kingdom; and if ever this unhappiness should prevail, I think, it will rather be my choice to go, than remain here, although I should never forget her, whom I had once held a correspondence with, and would then end my attachment to the sex.

I have taken up the pen again after another deliberation upon the subject of this letter, because I would not
rashly

rashly impute this seeming indifference and coldness to a disinclination in you, to decline future correspondence with me, still I cannot find sufficient reason to appease my fears.

You said in your last, that your friend had been to *Oxford*, and just come to town, through whom you correspond, and that in her absence, you could not hear from me. I suppose, she has not been in the country again ever since you wrote? Why then have my letters lain all this while at *J——s's*, after repeated advice thereof in the papers?

Perhaps you yourself have been out of town? What! before, or since the advertisement appeared in last *Friday's* paper? If you saw it before you left

town, or your friend saw it, why could not you receive it? I presume, you were not from the metropolis when you sent me the last, which I received the twelfth or thirteenth. When you went, I know not, but I heard last *Monday*, accidentally, that you were in the country, however, I asked no questions, for good reasons; I believe, you have been there,---because I saw your post chaise, with four horses, having a large trunk, or portmantua behind it, followed by another chaise and four, pass by the *Meuse*, *Charing Cross*, yesterday afternoon, between three and four o'clock. I happened then, to be in a house nearly opposite the *Meuse gate*, and having cast my eyes casually towards the street, there beheld what I have mentioned, but as to seeing the
company

company in either of them, I might just as well have been in ——— or ———
———

I was unlucky enough not to be near the street door of this house where I chanced to be then, and your post chaise had rather past the door, so that 'twas impossible for me to see within it, and the windows of the other chaise following, being up, and the motion of the carriage swift, I could make nothing of that neither.

This is a kind of confirmation of the truth of my accidental intelligence, relative to your late excursion, *perhaps into Kent.*

Notwithstanding you came to town yesterday afternoon, my letters are not

F 5

taken

town, or your friend saw it, why could not you receive it? I presume, you were not from the metropolis when you sent me the last, which I received the twelfth or thirteenth. When you went, I know not, but I heard last *Monday*, accidentally, that you were in the country, however, I asked no questions, for good reasons; I believe, you have been there,---because I saw your post chaise, with four horses, having a large trunk, or portmantua behind it, followed by another chaise and four, pass by the *Meuse*, *Charing Cross*, yesterday afternoon, between three and four o'clock. I happened then, to be in a house nearly opposite the *Meuse* gate, and having cast my eyes casually towards the street, there beheld what I have mentioned, but as to seeing the
company

company in either of them, I might just
as well have been in ——— or ———
———

I was unlucky enough not to be near the street door of this house where I chanced to be then, and your post chaise had rather past the door, so that 'twas impossible for me to see within it, and the windows of the other chaise following, being up, and the motion of the carriage swift, I could make nothing of that neither.

This is a kind of confirmation of the truth of my accidental intelligence, relative to your late excursion, *perhaps into Kent.*

Notwithstanding you came to town yesterday afternoon, my letters are not

F 5

taken

taken up; add to this, the long time they have lain previous to it, and I leave you to judge, whether I have not reason to be uneasy.

I have written you very long letters, which you will receive along with this.—Excuse all inaccuracies; for as I write to you intirely from the heart, and don't take the form of transcribing it a second time, it is possible many errors may happen, which I trust to your regard and indulgence, to let pass uncensured. As my head aches, and my heart also,—what am I fit for? They say, when the cause is known, the illness is half-cured; Well!—there is some comfort in that reflection; and if it be true, I am half-cured; for I certainly know the cause. But I want no physick, “that they may throw

to

to the dogs." Time and patience overcome all things; and so I must wait better days, if any such are to come

to your faithful,

and affectionate

G—

F 6 LETTER

LETTER. LII.

Lady SAPPHO VARLEY, to Lord
GOULD.

SURE never woman was ever teased with so troublesome a man as I am, —have not I told you that it was not in my power at all times to send for your letters?—I again repeat it.—Do you not know my situation, why will you then torment me in this manner?

I informed you I would send for your letters as soon as it was convenient;—but it is impossible for me to send at every time you expect, then I am to be worried in the news papers: it is well
you

you have neither business to engage, nor pleasure to amuse you, that you can have the impertinence to tease me till I am as splenetick as yourself;---away with your strange humours,---I will not be plagued with them.---I shall send for your letters immediately, and perhaps you may not hear from me for some time, I am still your sincere friend

S—

P. S. Please to be a little more intelligible in your next advertisement, or it will be impossible for me to know where to send for your letters.---You were right in your conjectures, I have been in *Kent* these ten days, and at this time of the year it was very disagreeable, however, I made myself easy, as I could not possibly avoid going thither. Adieu.

I have

I have had a great cold, and have been extremely ill, owing to the severity of the weather: but I am now much recovered.

LETTER

LETTER LIII.

Lord GOULD, to Lady SAPPHO
VARLEY.

Dear Lady S—— *Friday Night.*

I Received at four o'clock this afternoon a letter from you, *concluded in rather rebuking terms*, which I presume would not have been *so readily* made use of, had you been pleased to condescend to reflect for five minutes that my advertisement of last week, and likewise of yesterday, could not possibly allude to any other place than *Y——s's*, and, I thought, they were sufficiently explicit.

When

When I put an advertisement in the paper, I mean that *you alone* should understand it, and all impertinent people be at a loss to construe it;—and I cannot think, to the best of my recollection, that there was *any obscurity* in the one, or the other, which you might not have easily seen through.

Indeed! I have not the papers at hand this moment, and will not take upon me to swear for every word in each of the advertisements, but this I will say, with submission to your better memory, that if I did mention in the advertisement of yesterday, the *same words*, which you have been pleased to repeat in your letter this day to me,---I must have done so upon undoubted reliance of your immediately, and truly, interpreting the meaning

meaning of that advertisement of last week, and of your having taken up the letter it alluded to, neither did I know but that you had taken it up, till *Tuesday* night last, when upon inquiry I was informed that it still lay there; and the way I came to know it was this; I sent as usual to know if there was any letter for me, and hearing there were none,--- I therefore dispatched an advertisement that evening (*Tuesday*) about six o'clock to the printer, which ought to have appeared last *Wednesday*, instead of yesterday, to signify what you have read, and now complain of,---and while the messenger was gone with this advertisement, I wrote a letter to you, and as soon as it was finished, I enclosed it to J——'s, and desired him to take care of it,---and if any letter had come to him for me since I sent in the afternoon, I desired
 he

he would dispatch the same directly to me.

He wrote to me, that he would certainly take care of it, with the former, (meaning last week's letter) which *still* lay at his house.

— This passed on *Tuesday* evening last.

The next day I looked for the advertisement, but it was not inserted; the day after (yesterday) it made it's appearance, and I sent to J——'s frequently to know if the letters were taken away, or any one for me; but neither the one, or the other to console me with.

Judge the situation of my mind under this dilemma?

I was

I was extremely distressed, and thought, that something particular had happened, to prevent the letters being taken up, still I was determined to try again, and know the cause of this perplexing affair.

I accordingly sat down last night, and wrote you another letter (being the third) which I dispatched to F——s's, with a note to desire him to take care of it and put it with the other two, that they might be given together to the person that should call for them : But that in case the two first letters were taken up, before he received that, I desired him to return it me under cover at three o'clock this afternoon, at such a place where I should then be.

I was

I was at the house mentioned before the time appointed, and after waiting 'till half past three o'clock, without hearing from him, I sent a note to know the reason of it, and he wrote me an answer apologizing for not sending sooner, owing to the difference of clocks, and at the same time, enclosed me your letter, which came to my hands exactly at four o'clock this afternoon.

I immediately sent away an advertisement in a letter to the printer, and desired him to insert it in to-morrow's gazetteer, as the time was streightened. I have desired you to send to J—s's this time for the letters, which with this, make up four in number.

As soon as you receive these letters, and make the proper observations on the
the

the parts which I have desired you to resolve me in, pray write me an answer as soon as possible.

I have been very minute in the relation of this affair, that you might be sensible how anxious I have been to have you take up these letters, and make me happy in hearing from you,—for 'tis the only one I have enjoyed of late, and if you take away that from me, you make me intirely unhappy.

This pains I have taken to clear myself from any unkind opinion you may have entertained from a supposed carelessness in me, or inattention to your commands relative to the letter in particular, which you spoke of in your last, and that of to day.

But

But if you had taken up the letters, you would have been informed, that in mine of last week, I advised what to do;—and in that of *Tuesday* last, I informed you that I had called at the coffee-house, and taken it away last *Sunday*, and burnt it, as soon as could be afterwards, as I had wrote since the date of that.

As to the description of the person who took it up, I cannot undertake that office;—I should make an odd sort of a portrait of him. *I wish you would do it, now I have let you into a knowledge of him. I am sure you could make more of him than any body in the whole universe besides,* for he would obey your orders most readily, and let himself be taken off by you in such position and light as your inclination might incline you,

you, when he would not do so much if drawn by any other.

Pray let me ask you, how comes it about that you pitched upon the name of——? Upon my word, I think, your friend not unlike one of that name I have occasionally in public seen.— You'll oblige me to satisfy me in that particular.

You mention something concerning the letters being delivered only to one person, meaning the girl that fetches them, but pray how can I give any description of her? I hope, we shall meet next week and then we will (if you please) talk over the affair to prevent future delays, or any probable miscarriages of letters, in the mean while,

while, suppose I continue to write to
you under the letters D. L. at J——'s

From your faithful and affectionate

G——

LETTER

ADVERTISEMENT.

Lord GOULD, to Lady SAPPHO
VARLEY.

“I Believe my acknowledgement of a letter from you was premature,—having some reason for this which did not appear to me till *Saturday* evening last—In short I have received none from you since the twelfth of *January* which was a very remarkable one. If you have sent any lately and omitted the full address, and by such omission, the same has missed my hands, no blame can lay upon me. You have my best wishes, &c. though I never should see you more”

Adieu

G

ADVER

ADVERTISEMENT.

Lady SAPPHO VARLEY, to Lord
GOULD.

“ I AM no stranger to the object that engrosses all your attention.—Say, do they know your worth, or if they do, are they capable of setting a proper value on it?—No!—for heavens sake if you have any regard for your future happiness, immediately drop this correspondence; it may disturb your peace and ruin your interest, but never can be of the least advantage. Friendship like ours should never be disturbed by an interloper.—It was unkindly done to disappoint me of the happiness I expected in seeing you last week. Let me beg and
intreat

intreat you to dine with me to morrow at three o'clock in ——— then a plan shall be laid before you, which it is impossible you can have any objection to; except you are infatuated to your own destruction."

I AM no stranger to the object that engrosses all your attention—say, do they know your worth, or if they do, are they capable of seeing a proper value on it?—No!—for heavens sake if you have any regard for your future happiness, immediately drop this contest—conscience may disturb your peace and ruin your interest, but never can be of the least advantage. Friendship like true love, should never be diminished by an inter-
 I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
 G. 2 ADVER-

ADVERTISEMENT.

Lord GOULD, to Lady SAPHO
VARLEY.

An Answer.

“IT is quite clear to me that you have either suffered yourself to think or entertain the most groundless and unjust suspicions of my fidelity and regard; or received through some infamous channel very cruel intelligence, or malignant suggestions, concerning the subject matter mentioned;—which is as contrary to truth, as one extremity is to the opposite. I am sure of this, that I am far from blame, and innocent of your accusation.—I have noticed some
strange

strange advertisements which I am intirely ignorant of. I hope you have not been led away by the same.—Friendship like ours *shall never* be disturbed by any interloper.—You say I have disappointed you in seeing me; I protest I never received any notice whereby I could expect to see you any where. As to your kind invitation to dine with you in ———; it will give me the greatest pleasure to embrace the opportunity of your company, but how shall I know when, unless I receive a line, which I shall look for. Direct it where you used to do: Let the address be the same as before, if elsewhere, use my own name in the direction.—I could wish if possible to meet you first, and accompany you thither.”

LETTER. LIV.

Lady SAPPHO VARLEY, to Lord
GOULD.

WE have both been deceived by our enemies. Strange accounts I have heard of your conduct, but I believe you are innocent of those accusations.

I am determined to come to an explanation.—Have you parted with your Lady? Can you clear up every doubtful circumstance—and lastly, have you courage enough to share my fortunes, and pass the rest of your days in obscurity?—Consider well your own heart, and do not be led away by false notions,

as many thoughtless persons are!—by the novelty of an elopement.—

You are on the point of entering into a very serious and solemn engagement with me:—where honour, fidelity, and tenderness, will be expected in the highest degree.—You are to be to me, my guide, guardian, and friend;—and to supply the place of every dear and tender relation, that fortune or alliance has sent me; which I shall abandon for your society alone.

But Oh! should coldness and disgust on your part, succeed this attachment, not even fortitude nor reason will support me under that affliction;—but I should languish out the small remnant of my life in sorrow and despair.

G 4

I will

I will not anticipate misfortunes—
 I think you cannot be a stranger to your
 own heart—and I believe you to be sin-
 cere and honest, and that you could
 never trifle with the happiness of a wo-
 man who sincerely loves you.—Meet
 me to-morrow morning at twelve
 o'clock, at Mrs. ——— in P——t
 Street, come in a chair, and prepared
 to settle finally our departure—for I
 shall have no opportunity of seeing you
 again, till I am yours forever.

Adieu.

S—

LETTER

LETTER LV.

Lord GOULD, to Lady SAPHO
VARLEY.

THOU source of all my joy and
peace! why will you be so unjust
to yourself and me, to think I ever
could be guilty of the heinous crime
of ingratitude to any person; much
less to the woman I adore? Who places
an unlimited confidence in me, and
trusts me with Heaven's best gift—her-
self.—Believe me, I know myself, and
am sensible of your worth.—My at-
tachment to you my dear Lady S—;
is not the whimsical flights of fancy;
nor the heated imagination of youth;—

but sober, solid, honest love; that time nor accident ever can alter.

It is some years since I first saw you—loved, and esteemed you; and take Heaven to witness, that my heart never strayed from the dear object of all my hopes; therefore be not cruel to yourself.—Forego distrust—on my honour it is groundless, and you shall ever find me the most faithful and affectionate of men:—and I shall make it my intire study to deserve you.

I shall with the greatest joy embrace the opportunity of meeting you at the place appointed.

Adieu my best beloved

G—

LETTER LVI.

Lady SAPPHO VARLEY, to Lady
HENEAGE.

AT last Lady Heneage, Lord Gould
and I have had an interview. Do
not be surprized my dear, when I tell
you that we have settled every thing for
our journey.

I leave town and Sir John on Mon-
day afternooh—but before I go I shall
come to take a last farewell of my
friend.—Oh! death is in that thought!
for I fear you will forget, neglect, and
think me unworthy of your friendship.
—I shall never after see you more.—

I will

I will not torment myself with these cruel thoughts.—You are so very good that I will hope for every thing—hope is the unhappy wretch's comforter.

I have packed up my jewels (I think I have a right to take them with me as they were my mother's; and what I have of my own were purchased by my relations on my marriage with Sir John) and what other things I shall want. I have with the help of Miss Morly, conveyed them to a place appointed by Lord Gould.

On Monday afternoon I am to go to *Lincoln's-Inn* in a plain dress, in my own coach, which I shall send back, walk cross the courts to *Chancery Lane*, where a hackney coach will wait for me, in which I shall go to an Inn in *Wood-Street*,
—where

—where Lord Gould in a hired post-chaise will meet me;—then we shall proceed to *Hampstead*, discharge the chaise, there drink tea, and walk to the heath, —where Lord Gould's chaise and four with proper attendance will be to receive us—then we are to set out with the greatest expedition for———and not to stop on the road, except to take fresh horses.

I have here, Lady Heneage, given an account of our intended rout.—if it does not meet with your approbation, —I beg you will inform me of one more eligible?

I did propose going to *France*, but that Lord Gould was intirely against, because it would appear fearful in us to leave the kingdom; and he is determined

mined, that no person on earth, shall tear me from his arms. The only and most desirable event that can happen, will be a divorce;—for after this public elopement, Sir John can never think of accommodating matters.—Should he be so mean, I am resolved, rather to die, than to continue in such a shameful prostitution, as my marriage with him had condemned me to for so long a time. There is nothing to be feared from Sir John's courage; therefore I am happy in that respect.—Lord Gould is brave, and I am sure Sir John will always shun him.

I shall have no opportunity Lady Heneage to write to you again, till I am at —

Lord

Lord Gould informs me that it is not a very eligible place, and that the house is an old gothick building, and has only been inhabited by some of his tenants, for these six or seven years; as he always thought it too far from the capital for his residence,—but I wish it was a thousand miles further; it would have more charms for me than if it was the most elegant mansion in the world, if situated in *London* or any of the environs.

I shall wait on you early on *Sunday* morning.—Be denied to every one but your friend,

SAPPHO VARLEY.

P. S. Sir John sets out for *Kent* on *Sunday* afternoon, with Whitmore, for
three

three or four days.—I hope before his return, to be safe at ——

Farewell.

LETTER

LETTER LVII.

Lord GOULD, to Lady HENEAGE.

Madam,

BY the desire of Lady Sappho, I presume to address your Ladyship, and give you an account of your friend's welfare.

Your Ladyship is acquainted how Lady Sappho proposed to come to the Inn in *Wood-Street*.—She arrived exactly at four o'clock, I received her into the chaise, and observed the soft charmer hardly breathed — before we had got out of town, she fainted in my arms. The situation I was in, is easier to be imagined than described ;—
but

but never in my life did I experience so much pain as I did at that juncture--to see the dear object that I adore deprived of sense.

I let the glasses down,—the air and her salts restored her to life—but it was with the greatest difficulty I could keep her in spirits, till we got to *Hampstead*;—there we drank tea, and dismissed the chaise.—It was quite dark when we set forwards to the heath, where, on the left hand, a little out of the main road, my chaise waited.

Just as we had walked up the hill, that leads to the heath, and was within twenty yards of the carriage, we heard some horses on full speed; this very much alarmed Lady Sappho. She screamed out, we are pursued, and faint-

ed

ed away.—I took her in my arms, and bore her to the chaise.—The horsemen went on the road towards *Hendon*, and we that which leads to *Highgate*.

Lady Sappho revived, and became more composed.—I could not prevail on her to stop on the road, longer than to change horses.—Nothing material happened the rest of our journey.—We arrived at ——— last night, unexpected by any person;—for I by no means thought it adviseable to give the least notice of our coming into the country.

Sir John and Lady Sappho's relations, will certainly imagine we were on the rode to *Dover*, and pursue us that way;—and for the present, I would have the place of our retreat a secret to every person, but your Ladyship,
till

till their resentment is a little subsided, and the elopement is become public:—for here rests all my security; that Sir John will sue for a divorce, that I may receive the hand of my dear Lady Sappho, according to the present mode of this country.—

Lady Sappho is extremely fatigued, and quite out of spirits—I must beg your Ladyship will be so obliging as to write her a consolating letter; for I am convinced, she will regard every thing that you say, before any person in the world.

I shall esteem myself the happiest of mortals, if she recovers her health and spirits;—and is pleased with her own conduct;—but her sensibility is so great, that I am alarmed for her. If
the

the highest love, the greatest tenderness, can compose her mind,—it shall be my particular care, to make her happy—and time I hope, will reconcile her to the step she has taken for our mutual happiness.

I have the Honour,

Madam,

to be your Most Obedient

GOULD.

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E R R A T A.

- P. 67. l. 1. for *wiser* read *wiser*.
P. 71. l. 18. for *hereafter done* r. *hereafter be done*.
P. 86. l. 5. for *upright* r. *abrupt*.



